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ELEMENTS AND EPHEMERIS OF BARNARD'S COMET
(MARCH 29, 1891).

From Mr. BARNARD'S observations of March 29, 30 and 31, I have computed the following elements of the orbit of this comet.

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \text{April } 27.668 \text{ Gr. M. T.} \\ \omega &= 184 \quad 30'.7 \\ \Omega &= 194 \quad 24'.5 \\ i &= 120 \quad 30'.3 \end{aligned} \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} T \\ \omega \\ \Omega \\ i \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{Apparent Equinox.}$$

$$\log q = 9.56164.$$

The Middle place is represented as follows:

$$\begin{array}{r} C - O \\ \hline \Delta \alpha \cos \delta = - 0'.14 \\ \Delta \delta \quad \quad = + 0'.26 \end{array}$$

This orbit (together with an ephemeris extending to April 14) was communicated to other observatories by telegraph.

J. M. SCHAEBERLE.

MOUNT HAMILTON, April 3, 1891.

NEW RILL ON THE FLOOR OF THE LUNAR CRATER *THEBIT*,
RECENTLY DISCOVERED BY PROFESSOR WEINEK IN THE
LICK OBSERVATORY PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE MOON.

[Translation of a letter from Professor WEINEK] Imperial Observatory of Prague, 1891, April 9.

" * * * * * I send you with this a copy of my ten-fold enlarged drawing of *Thebit* which I have lately completed from the beautiful negative made at the Lick Observatory on August 27, 1888, and ask your acceptance of it. The copy was quickly made, but it is accurate.

Although I am very much occupied with other observations, I have made the drawing of this crater because it shows in the interior a species of *Rill* (extending from ξ to ϵ of NEISON'S map), resembling a fracture along the floor, which is not shown in the maps of LOHRMANN and MAEDLER nor yet anywhere mentioned by SCHMIDT.

This *Rill* in *Thebit* seems to divide into two branches, extending eastwardly, at its northern part, and shows on the negative even more plainly than the *Rill* which lies west of *Triesnecker*, and seems to be a formation of precisely the same character.

On the night of March 31, 1891 (when the phase was very similar to that of August 27, 1888), I was able to verify the

existence of this feature with the 6-inch STEINHEIL telescope of this observatory in spite of the low altitude of the Moon (Decl. = -25°) and the unsteady atmosphere.

An exchange of letters between Dr. KLEIN, of Cologne, and myself, has shown that the *Rill* was also quite unknown to this experienced selenographer and that nothing is to be found on the subject in the papers of GRUITHUISEN.

We have, therefore, a case of a *Rill* discovered *photographically*. It is not to be assumed, however, that the feature is newly formed since it is probably visible for a short time only, and since it is only to be seen in the early morning at a time when observations are not so diligently prosecuted.

I must add the remark that MAEDLER and NEISON have erroneously drawn the small crater which lies N. W. on the crater *Thebit* A on the *outer* wall. According to the negative it lies on the inner wall, and in such a manner that it also must be considered as a feature of the floor of the crater. (Compare SCHROETER's description, etc.)

It is pretty correctly drawn by LOHRMANN and SCHMIDT, although the photographic plate shows that its height above the interior of *Thebit* must be quite different from SCHMIDT's determination. * * * * *

L. WEINEK.

NOTE: It is known that Professor WEINEK is making an elaborate study of negatives of the Moon made at the Lick Observatory and regularly sent to the Observatory of Prague, and it is hoped soon to present in the *Publications* A. S. P. reproductions of his drawings (enlarged ten-fold from the original negatives), beginning the series with representations of the Crater *Archimides*.

The foregoing note on the discovery of a new *Rill* in *Thebit*, by Professor WEINEK, is an interesting proof of the value of our negatives when they are studied by an eminently competent eye. It was hoped to accompany Professor WEINEK's note with a copy of his drawing, but it has been found necessary to omit the drawing for the present, although it will appear in due time with others of the same series.

E. S. H.

TELESCOPE AND CHRONOMETER FOR SALE.

EDWIN B. ROOT, Esq. (54 William Street, New York City), administrator of the estate of the late Professor C. H. F. PETERS, of Hamilton College, has for sale a BOND's Break-Circuit Chronometer, No. 335, and a portable telescope of the Comet-seeker construction made by HUGO SCHROEDER, of Hamburg. The telescope is of five inches aperture, with eye-pieces magnifying from 25 to 275 diameters, a ring micrometer, a diagonal eye-piece, and is conveniently mounted on a mahogany tripod.

I have myself used this telescope and it is extremely fine in all respects, particularly in the color-correction, and I can con-